



10:00 Worship Service

February 22, 2026



Welcome to NEUMC!

We're glad you're here! Thank You for joining us today!

Our Mission is to Know Jesus and Make Him Known

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

First Sunday in Lent

***HYMN, 269**

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”
Verses 1-5

Processional

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE, 378**

“Amazing Grace”
Verses 1-4

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

“Lamb’s Corner”

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19

SONG

“Sanctuary”

Sing Twice

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for You

“Sanctuary” by John W. Thompson | Randy Scruggs
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SERMON AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor Antoinette

“Not Today”
Matthew 4:1-11

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERING

There are 4 ways to give. See back of bulletin.

***DOXOLOGY, 95**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Wine and grape juice are used for communion. The chalices have wine.
Grape juice is available in the center. Gluten free bread is used for communion.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

Sharing "peace" with one another is an ancient Christian tradition rooted in the teachings of Jesus and practices of the Christian community. It also serves as a way for members to reconcile before receiving Holy Communion. Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love. God's peace be with you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE UNITED METHODIST HYMNAL, Book of United Methodist Worship,

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CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN

“His Mercy Is More”

Verse 1

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Verse 2

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Verse 3

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Chorus

Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness new every morn
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

“His Mercy Is More” by Matt Boswell | Matt Papa

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POSTLUDE

* Please stand as you are able.



We are delighted that you have joined us in worship!
We hope your experience at NEUMC
was enjoyable and encouraging.

Sermon NOTES



“Not Today”

Matthew 4:1-11

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” 4 But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” 7 Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, 9 and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10 Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” 11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.’ ”

Lectionary Devotional
Reading for the week
of February 22

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11



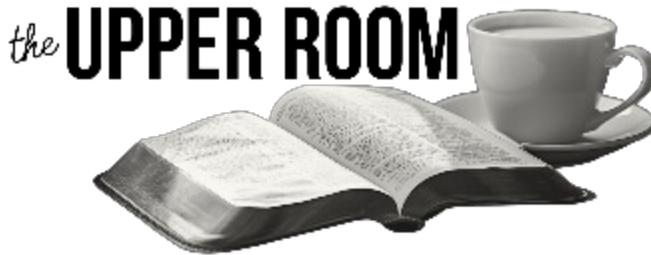
Sandlapper
Elementary School Food Program
Today

BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

View list of items

Place order on Amazon

NEUMC continues to support Sandlapper Elementary School through the Richland Two Backpack Program. The goal is to decrease weekends without adequate nourishment by providing additional foods as a supplement for families. Food items are collected the first Sunday of each month. A collection box is located in the narthex for the items or place an order online. The congregation is invited to stay after church next Sunday to help assemble the bags and pray for the children receiving them. To view a list of suggested menu items, please visit our website at neumc.com.



Join Pastor Antoinette and other members of our congregation as they lead a morning devotion and prayer each Wednesday morning. Please encourage friends, family, and others in our community to join this time of devotion and prayer.

Time: 6:00 AM (duration 15-20 minutes)

Dial-in Number: (605) 313-5873

Access Code: 2888884#

Please note, the dial-in number is a conference call line designated for our time of prayer.

Let's learn and
grow together!

Sunday
SCHOOL

TIME: 9:00 AM

Overcomers (Room 212) | Living Into God's Promises

Pairs & Spares (Room 214) | The Case for Christmas by Lee Strobel

Iron Sharpens Iron (Room 208) | The Upper Room - Disciplines

Older Kids & Youth (Room 213) | Lessons in the Bible

Preschool & Young Kids (Room 206) | Lessons in the Bible



Join Our Mailing List!
Want to receive the church emails?
Please scan the QR code to sign up.

MINISTRY AND PRAYER NEEDS

Prayer request cards are located in the card holders on the back of the chairs.

- **Dave Christiansen**, recovering from surgery.
- **Larry Markham**, who is at Wildwood Downs.
- **The family of Edward Zuraw**, Nikki Shaffner's uncle, upon his death.
- **Carol Rytlewski**, Nikki Shaffner's mother, for continued healing from her accident.
- **Dallas Petty**, recovering from the flu and has cancer.
- **Chris & Kara Bishop**. Chris has been diagnosed with frontotemporal dementia.
- **Kathy**, Lori Beth Wissler's sister, who is experiencing medical issues.
- **Enda Huggins**, Sylvia Cousin's sister, experiencing stomach problems.
- **Betty McCall**, Sylvia Cousin's aunt, who has heart problems.
- **Wanda Chandler**, Bianca Brazell's mother, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- **Marion Crowell**, Stephen Crowell's mother, who experienced complications from her pacemaker lead.
- **Jean**, co-worker of Karen Evans, who has been diagnosed with uterine serous carcinoma. Please continue to pray for her family and her doctors to determine the best treatment plan.
- **Doug Miro**, Ryon Miro's father, recovering from a stroke.
- **Tammie Sloop, Brooks Shealy & Mattia Hilmer** for their overall health.
- **Liz Hetzler**, Forrest Horn's sister, who is suffering with dementia.
- **Gary Hartman**, treatment of peripheral neuropathy in both feet and chronic arthritis in both ankles.
- **Those going through cancer treatment: John Lockard & Mark Grace**
- **Our military and first responders.**
- **Our missionaries:**
 - **Matt & Jenny Williams:** Athletes in Action Cru
 - **Steve & Stephanie Bredesen:** Nakalanda, Uganda
 - **Ben & Jenny Reyes**

HOMEBOUND AND ELDERLY

We are a family and we encourage anyone who feels led by God to visit those who are sick or homebound. Following are our homebound: George Eberhardt Sandra Miller Sabra Stewart

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Team create shawls and other items for you to share with those who need encouragement. When you give a shawl away, you are sharing the love and prayers of NEUMC. The prayer shawls are kept in the Prayer Center if one is needed. Prayer Shawl Ministry Team

ACOLYTE

Youth

TODAY	NEXT WEEK
LAY LEADER Jane Scott	LAY LEADER Larry Griner
COMMUNION PREPARER Karen Evans	COMMUNION PREPARER Elizabeth Chamblee
COMMUNION SERVERS Charlie & Ann Henry & Karen Evans	COMMUNION SERVERS Elizabeth Chamblee & Tina Lipscomb
SCRIPTURE READER Elizabeth Chamblee	SCRIPTURE READER Karen Evans
DESIGNATED FRIENDS Charlie & Ann Henry	DESIGNATED FRIENDS Dianne Markham & Mary Anne Lockard
GREETERS Forrest & Diane Horn	GREETERS Charlie & Ann Henry
PRAYER WARRIOR Dianne Markham	PRAYER WARRIOR Charlie Henry
OFFERING COUNTERS Tom DeCristofaro & George Evans	OFFERING COUNTERS Bill Hoesly & Buck Brazell
THE UPPER ROOM FEBRUARY 25 Charlie Henry	THE UPPER ROOM MARCH 4 Pastor Antoinette

There are 4 ways to give:

- (1) as offering is collected
- (2) mail a check to the church
- (3) setup recurring giving online: neumc.com/give
- (4) use the QR Code to give online

Scan to Give Online



CONTACT US

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OFFICE HOURS

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM: MONDAY - FRIDAY

ACOLYTE

Youth

TODAY	NEXT WEEK
LAY LEADER Larry Griner	LAY LEADER Jane Scott
COMMUNION PREPARER Dianne Markham	COMMUNION PREPARER Karen Evans
COMMUNION SERVERS Dianne Markham, Weston Cheatham & Debbo Lackore	COMMUNION SERVERS Charlie & Ann Henry & Karen Evans
SCRIPTURE READER Diane Horn	SCRIPTURE READER Elizabeth Chamblee
DESIGNATED FRIENDS Melanie Hafner & Jane DeCristofaro	DESIGNATED FRIENDS Charlie & Ann Henry
GREETERS Don & Janice Starner	GREETERS Forrest & Diane Horn
PRAYER WARRIOR Tammie Sloop	PRAYER WARRIOR Dianne Markham
OFFERING COUNTERS Stephen Crowell & Larry Griner	OFFERING COUNTERS Tom DeCristofaro & George Evans
THE UPPER ROOM FEBRUARY 18 Pastor Antoinette	THE UPPER ROOM FEBRUARY 25 Charlie Henry

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OFFICE HOURS

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM: MONDAY - FRIDAY

You are warmly invited to join us in observing the Wesley Fast for seven weeks as part of our shared Lenten journey. The fast begins the day after Ash Wednesday, from sundown on Thursday, February 19, 2026, and continues each week through Friday at 3:00 p.m., concluding on Good Friday. This practice offers a simple and meaningful way to draw closer to God alongside one another during this sacred season.

THE WESLEY FAST



WHAT IS FASTING?

The United Methodist Church does not have official guidance on *how* individuals should observe fasting or abstinence. Many choose to fast from food, but fasting or abstinence can include restriction of activities such as watching television, shopping, or social networking. Some choose to give away clothing or possessions, give time by volunteering, or increase time spent in prayer. Be sure to check with your physician before attempting a total fast (no food, water only) for more than 24 hours.

Whenever or however we fast, United Methodists do so to reorient ourselves away from the compulsions and distractions of our lives to make more room in our lives for the love of God overflowing in love to every neighbor.

WHAT IS THE WESLEY FAST?

For a portion of John Wesley's ministry, he advocated fasting on both Wednesday and Friday each week as a regular spiritual discipline. But as time passed, Wesley fasted mostly on Fridays. (Actually, as early as August 1739, he advocated Friday fasting for Methodists in his journal, according to the Anglican rule.)

Wesley usually began a Friday fast at sundown on Thursday. This was in continuity with Jewish and early Christian tradition, which both marked the beginning of the day at sundown, not midnight. Wesley typically ended his fast at 3:00 p.m. on Friday.

GUIDELINES FOR OBSERVING THE WESLEY FAST

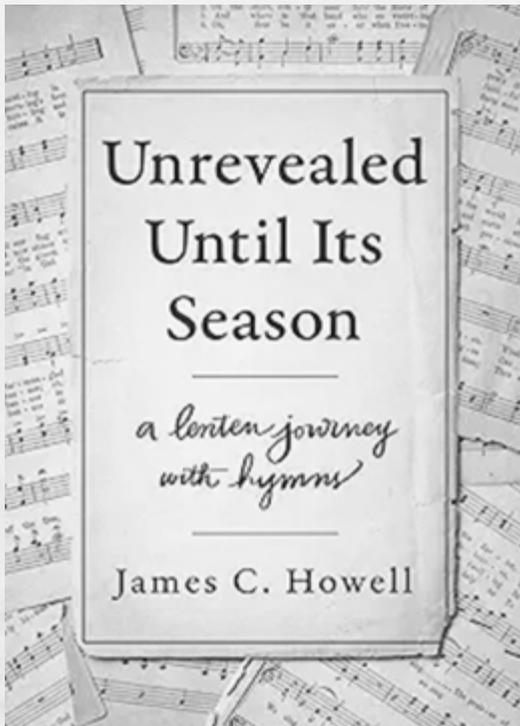
1. Be flexible and listen to the Holy Spirit. Don't get so caught up with the act of fasting itself that you forget why you're doing it in the first place.
2. Decide whether you're going to do a complete fast (water only), a no-solid-food fast that allows milk, juice, coffee and tea, a no-meat fast, or some other kind of fast. There are no fixed rules here but it's always good to try to keep the fast you set out to do. Some fasts are more difficult than others, and there will be times you may feel led to switch things up.
3. Plan on Friday as your regular fasting day, but use Wednesday and other days for additional fasting when you feel called to a time of deeper and more intense prayer. Remember, there's nothing "magic" about Friday. It's simply a historical day for fasting in many Christian traditions, largely because Jesus was crucified on a Friday. If for some reason another day of the week makes more sense for you, then fast on that day.
4. Only fast for more than one consecutive day after you've consulted with your doctor and only if you're sure you're physically able to handle it.
5. Make sure you drink plenty of water while fasting, no matter what kind of fast you choose.
6. The default Wesley Fast is observed from sundown Thursday till 3:00 Friday afternoon. Some Christians go till sundown on Friday. Do whichever you feel led to do in any given week.
7. Remember, there will be times when it makes sense to skip your Friday fast or move it to another day of the week. For example, if you have an opportunity to have lunch on a Friday with someone you've been wanting to connect with for a while, don't feel compelled to create an awkward situation by sticking to your fast. Just change your fast day that week. Guideline #1 applies here.

Small Group Studies

Unrevealed Until Its Season: A Lenten Journey with Hymns

Hymns hold a special place in our hearts. The author contends that “hymns embed into the marrow of the soul more vividly than words merely spoken or read.” This study will guide you to reflect on hymns during Lent.

Jane Scott will facilitate this small group with meetings on **Tuesdays at 10:00 AM** beginning on February 24. You are encouraged to read the introduction and the first week in Lent section of the book in preparation for February 24.

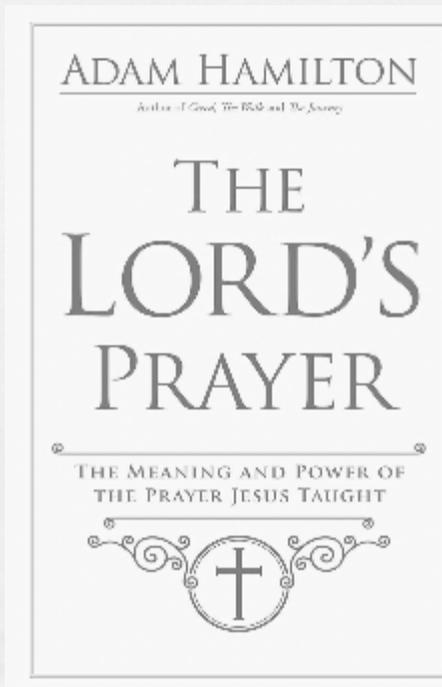


The Lord's Prayer: The Meaning and Power of the Prayer Jesus Taught

Author Adam Hamilton guides us to really know—and really pray—the Lord's Prayer. He explores each of its rich lines and their meaning in the Bible, illuminating what we ask of God and what we ask of ourselves through its words. The author himself says: "Each word is saturated with meaning, a meaning we often miss when we pray. Each of its six petitions reflects the major themes from Jesus' life and ministry."

Diane Horn will facilitate this six-week study.

Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM beginning February 25.



Signup sheets are located in the narthex.

Contact person: Jane DeCristofaro, Small Group Coordinator
northeast@neumc.com